Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /031 W

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CONFIDENTIAL GENEVA 6093

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: CSCE: ALLIED CONSULTATIONS ON BASKET III

REF: GENEVA 6075

1. AS FORESEEN REFTEL SHERER MET WITH FRENCH DEL HEAD (ANDREANI) SEPT. 27 TO PRESS AGAIN FOR DRAFTING MORE REALISTIC BASKET III TEXTS IN NATO CAUCUS. UK DEL HEAD WAS ALSO PRESENT. ANDREANI INDICATED THAT NINE COULD PROBABLY AGREE TO PURSUE DRAFTING EXERCISE PROPOSED BY US, WITH UNDERSTANDING THAT DRAFTING WOULD BE AIMED TOWARD AGREEMENT ON MORE MODERATE TEXTS FOR USE IN CSCE NEGOTIATIONS AT THE APPROPRIATE TIME. THESE TEXTS COULD NOT REPEAT NOT BE USED TO CONVEY WESTERN FALLBACK POSITIONS TO THE SOVIETS IN ADVANCE. TO UNDERSCORE THIS CAVEAT NINE WOULD INSIST ON INFORMAL NOTATION OF ANY AGREED TEXTS WHICH EMERGE, AND WOULD NOT REPEAT NOT ACCEPT FORMAL AGREED TEXTS ON PAPER.

2. MORE IMPORTANTLY, NINE ARE ANXIOUS TO HAVE US SUPPORT FOR THEIR POSITION ON NECESSITY OF A FIRST READING OF ALL SUBJECTS IN BASKET III BEFORE FINAL CONCESSIONS ARE MADE. ACCORDING TO ANDREANI, NINE SHOULD BE ABLE TO AGREE TO A NATO CAUCUS DRAFTING CONFIDENTIAL

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EXERCISE AS DESCRIBED ABOVE IF US CAN SUPPORT CONCEPT

OF FIRST READING IN FULL CSCE. APPROPRIATE OCCASION FOR DOING THIS WILL BE NEXT COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEETING ON OCT. 3, AND ANDREANI ASKED US TO MAKE A STATEMENT ON THIS SUBJECT AT THAT TIME.

3. WE INDICATED WE WOULD HAVE TO REQUEST INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE WE COULD GIVE ANY REPLY, AND WE WOULD APPRECIATE HAVING THE DEPARTMENT'S GUIDANCE BY OCT. 2, WHEN NATO CAUCUS WILL AGAIN DISCUSS MECHANICS OF ALLIED CONSULTATIONS ON BASKET III. WE WOULD STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT WE BE PERMITTED TO ACCEPT THIS BARGAIN WITH THE NINE, WHICH WE CONSIDER A FAIR ONE, AND WHICH WE BELIEVE WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO THE ADVANCEMENT OF CSCE WORK. WE WOULD, OF COURSE, EXPLAIN OUR ATTITUDE PRIVATELY TO SOVIETS PRIOR TO COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEETING IN ORDER TO MAKE IT CLEAR THAT WE WISH TO AVOID ANY SUGGESTION OF CONFRONTATION OVER THIS ISSUE. DALE

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